

Message Text

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DEPT FOR CU/WE

PASS EUR LABOR ADVISOR GOOT AND GERALD HOLMES ILAB,

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PEXC, ELAB, SP

SUBJECT: PROJECT FOR LABOR LEADERS

REF: (A) STATE 214609 (B) MADRID 6238

1. WE PROVIDE BELOW DATE ON NOMINEE FOR LABOR PROJECT FROM CNT SECTOR, BUT REGRET CONTINUING DELAYS ON THE PART OF BOTH UGT AND USO TRADE UNIONS STILL PREVENT US FROM SUBMITTING OTHER NAMES FOR PROPOSED THREE MAN LABOR GROUP. THE TOP LEADERSHIP OF THESE UNIONS HAS BEEN LARGELY IN-ACCESSIBLE (USO UNDERGROUND RULES EXPLAINED IN REFTELB. I.E. USO NOMINEE WOULD TRAVEL IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY), AND HAVE PROMISED (ONCE AGAIN) TO PROVIDE THE NAMES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CANDIDATES "MOMENTARILY".

2. CNT NOMINEE: LADISLAO GARCIA VELASCO FRM BARCELONA, THE TRADITIONAL POWER BASE OF THE CNT. GARCIA AGE 51 IS SECRETARY OF THE CNT PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT UNION, AND IS A MOVIE PROJECTIONIST BY TRADE. GIVEN THE STILL PRO-VISIONAL NATURE OF BOTH THE CNT'S REGIONAL AND NATIONAL STRUCTURE, THE UNION DOES NOT CURRENTLY ENDORSE TRAVEL GRANTEES, AND GARCIA WILL THUS BE TRAVELLING IN A PERSONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAPACITY. HOWEVER, HE IS EXPECTED TO PLAY AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE CNT BARCELONA REGION. AND ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT FROM CNT MILITANTS IN THE TEXTILE, METALS AND CONSTRUCTION SECTORS OF CATALONIA. THE LABATT MENTIONED GARCIA'S CANDIDACY INFORMALLY TO THE CNT'S PROVISIONAL NATIONAL PRESIDENT (JUAN GOMEZ CASAS OF MADRID), WHO VOICED NO OBJECTION.

3. IN WAY OF BRIEF BACKGROUND, THE CNT WAS THE SECOND LARGEST TRADE UNION IN SPAIN IN PRE CIVIL WAR DAYS (AFTER THE UGT) ALTHOUGH IT IS STILL A RELATIVELY WEAK ELEMENT IN THE NATIONAL TRADE UNION PICTURE, MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE THE CNT IS MAKING A COMEBACK ESPECIALLY IN CATALONIA. THE CNT'S PRE CIVIL WAS "ANARCHO SYNDICAL" LABEL HAS RAISED SOME EYEBROWS IN THE MODERN WESTERN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. HOWEVER, TODAY'S CNT BELIEVES IN THE PEACEFUL PROCESS OF SOCIAL CHANGE NOT VIOLENCE OR TERRORISM THE TERMS "LIBERTATIAN SYNDICALISM" OR "REVOLUTIONARY SYNDICALISM" MIGHT THEREFORE BE A MORE APPROPRIATE DESCRIPTION THE CNT IS INTERESTED IN BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUES AS WELL IN THE EVENTUAL RESTRUCTURING OF SOCIETY. TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY, ALTHOUGH IT HAS A HIGH SOCIAL IDEOLOGY IT IS NOT BY ANY MEANS DIVORCED FROM THE DAY TO DAY STRUGGLE FOR WORKERS RIGHTS AND BENEFITS. THE CNT REJECTS POLITICAL ALLIANCES AND IS FIERCELY ANTI COMMUNIST (SEE OUT A-166 FOR MORE ON THE CNT).

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